



Strengthening Solar PV Education & Solar PV Popularization in Rural Villages of Ethiopia

Summary

Country	Ethiopia
Implementer	Hawassa children's organization (HCO)
Target groups	Young adults
Duration	08/2020 – 01/2023
Type of energy use	Electrification

Challenge

Ethiopia's population is growing, as is its economy. But large parts of the country, especially the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR), are without a power grid and rely primarily on wood as an energy source. Off-grid solutions are the only alternative for many population groups. However, there is a lack of technicians who can install and maintain systems.

Impact Logic

In order to establish itself as a leading training centre in solar energy, Hawassa Vocational Training College (HVTC) expands its technology laboratory and acquires additional equipment for practical exercises, such as measuring instruments, PV components or batteries. This also includes a 5kWp PV system, which ensures the power supply on the one hand and serves as a demonstration and training object on the other. HVTC also further develops its curricula and offers three different training programmes. Finally, additional trainers, technicians and management experts are hired. The project provides 60 unemployed young adults with technical and business skills and supports them to create their own business opportunities including product sales, installations, and servicing. Accordingly, the training programmes also improve the living conditions and awareness of the local population through the use of the technologies

by equipping 46 social institutions with solar applications and creating a demonstration field with a solar water pump. These illustrate the productive use of solar technology for the trainees, resident smallholders and the general public. Finally, HCO informs more than 3,000 people about solar energy through campaigns.

Innovative Project Elements

By training new technicians and entrepreneurs in the field of solar technology, the solar sector in Ethiopia becomes strengthened sustainably. 60 young adults are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to grow their small businesses with the support from HCO and the awareness campaigns. Additionally, this project, that trains new technicians, complements existing capacity-building efforts focused on solar PV education. HVTC signed a memorandum of understanding with Hawassa University Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources to conduct short term trainings on installation and maintenance of solar energy technologies for 150 technicians from governmental energy offices and private enterprises.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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